from the Deptt. of Official Language, Ministry of Home Affairs.

(b) The Hindi training programme is implemented as per guidelines issued by the Department of Official Language. Last year, 90 Hindi workshops were conducted.

(c) A 'Hindi Fortnight' is proposed to be organised in September, 1996 in Ministry of Defence as per guidelines received from the Deptt. of Official Language.

(d) The Ministry of Defence brings out one Hindi magazine. The Service Hqrs., Inter-Service Organisations, publish their own Hindi magazines.

(e) The Official Languages Act, 1963 has only 9 sections. Section 2 deals with definitions.

Strengthening of Technical Education in Orissa

4781. SHRI SOUMYA RANJAN:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Orissa has requested the Union Government to provide financial assistance for strengthening the technical education in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (c) The financial assistance for strengthening the technical education in the States including Orissa is given by the Central Government through block grants under their Annual Plans.

[Translation]

Sardar Sarovar Dam

4782. SHRI CHHATAR SINGH DARBAR : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the movement stated by the local people who have been affected by the height of the Sardar Sarovar Dam;

(b) if so, whether the Government would reconsider to lower the height of the said dam;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the corrective measures adopted/likely to be adopted by the Government to assist the affected people;

(e) whether the nearby historical places, temples have submerged in water due to the construction of Sardar Sarovar Dam; and

(f) if so, the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) Representations have been received for lowering the height of Sardar Sarovar Dam.

(b) and (c) Height of Sardar Sarovar Dam has been determined by Narmada Water Disputes Tribunal (NWDT) under its Award and the validity period of the Award is upto 2024 A.D. (45 years after Gazette Notification in 1979).

(d) The Narmada Water Disputes Tribunal (NWDT) has given exhaustive directions in regard to the resettlement & rehabilitation of the families affected by Sardar Sarovar Project. All the concerned party States of Gujarat, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh are carrying out necessary resettlement & rehabilitation measures for the project affected families based on their own policies which are more liberal than those provided in the Narmada Water Dispute Tribunal Award. The Narmada Control Authority is closely monitoring the overall implementation of resettlement & rehabilitation programme and advising the concerned States for speedy implementation of resettlement and rehabilitation measures.

(e) and (f) Necessary steps have been taken by the concerned party States for proper relocation of historical monuments/temples coming under submergence.

[English]

Pending Defence Projects

4783. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of defence projects particularly naval acquisition projects have been pending for the approval of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken to clear those projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) to (c) Government are committed to modernise the Armed Forces to maintain war preparedness. A concerted exercise is undertaken every year to determine the inter se priorities of different acquisitions and other proposals taking into account the changing threat scenario, advancement of technology, and global security environment and the availability of resources. This is an ongoing process.